

Next Town Assembly

**Village of Arden
Monday, September 22, 1997
7:30 p.m.
Arden Gild Hall**

AGENDA

- Guests: Kate Bartolo, Town Watch
- Nominations for assessors
- Buzz Ware Village Center annual budget presentation. Motion to substitute 97-98 renovation budget items
- Presentation of town budget
- Committee replacement nominations from the floor and elections:
Community Planning and Playground
- Discussion of possible Memorial Garden policy revision
- Standing committee reports

Public town meeting. All are welcome.

Please note: Those attending town meeting are eligible to vote after six consecutive months as an Arden resident prior to the meeting and are 18 years old or older.

June 23, 1997 Town Assembly for the Village of Arden Gild Hall • Arden, Delaware

Present:	Larry Walker	Lou Bean
Sharon Kleban	Debbie Theis	Ken Lipstein
Leon Tanzer	Mary Marconi	Lynda Kolski
Rich bloom	Hays Butler	Virginia Mann
Tim Colgan	Ruth Panella	Bill Press
Mamie Woolery	Rodney W. Jester	Peter A. Renzetti
Elizabeth Varley	Bernard Brachman	Jim Parks (NV)
June Kleban	Hugh Roberts	Aaron S. Hamburger
Ruth Bean	Casey Willson	Linda Eaton
Paul Thompson	Rich Reynolds	Edward Rohrbach
Sally Hamburger	Elizabeth Resko	Rachel Grier
Helen (Cookie) Ohlson	Lew Aumack	Mike Curtis
Jean K. Brachman	Stephen Harcourt	Frank Akutowicz
Maryellen Jobson	Drumlin Brooke (NV)	Lisa Mullinax
David Clarke (NV)	Tegan Harcourt (NV)	Peggy Aumack
Heidi Hoegger (NV)	Walter Broadbent	Denis O'Regan
Abe Scala (NV)	Lizzie Broadbent	Tom Wheeler
Beverly Barnett	Sadie Somerville	Betty O'Regan
Alton Dahl	Carl Falco	Mary-Brent Whipple
Chris Demsey	Irene O'Connor	Richard Rothrock
John Demsey	Marianne Cinaglia	
Mark Taylor	Gail Rinehart	

- 1. Meeting called to order:** Chairperson Bill Press established that there was a quorum and the meeting was called to order.
- 2. Communications:** Two responses to the Arden Resolution passed at the March town meeting were received: one from Gov. Carper and one from the chairperson of the Delaware Solid Waste Authority. The summary of the contents of the letters and reference materials enclosed in the letters will be in the Advisory Committee Report (see end of minutes for Del. Solid Waste and Carper letters).
- 3. Minutes of last town meeting:** Approved.
- 4. Registration Committee:** The Committee was called upon to give their report early to announce the results of the Trustee elections. The reports follows.

The Confirmation of Trustee was officially counted on May 27, 1997. Aaron Hamburger was approved as a new trustee of Arden.

The Registration Committee mailed out 393 ballots and received 250 valid, signed ballot envelopes back, a response rate of over 60%. There were 192 approvals, 57 disapprovals, and 1 blank which was counted as an abstaining vote.

The next task before the committee is the budget referendum and assessors election in October.

Respectfully submitted by Sharon Kleban, chairperson

Discussion: One resident questioned the committee's policy on handling an abstention and the change in the definition of a "resident." The new voting procedure should be publicized in the ballot. The change in way the founders of Arden conducted elections should be made known. Before this new election process was instituted, the candidate(s) or budget had to pass the most stringent test because more residents had to be involved or the candidate(s) or budget would be defeated. It called for a more active resident. We could more easily abolish Arden by the new election method.

Committee response: Three categories were set up: 1) Valid ballot (envelope signed by eligible voter) with **approval** of trustee candidate, 2) Valid ballot (envelope signed by eligible voter) with **disapproval** of candidate, 3) **Abstention** (envelope signed by eligible voter) with no ballot enclosed. The abstention did not equal a "no" vote. 60% response to the election shows that the committee did get the vote out.

Trustee response: The trustee election does not come under the Act to Reincorporate: it comes under the Deed of Trust. The Act to Reincorporate does not say a non-vote=no vote, but it was the way the elections were held before the new policy defining a resident was adopted by the town assembly under the recommendation of the Registration Committee [quoted from the Deed of Trust "... it is expressly to all."]

Other responses: Some people choose to disenfranchise themselves. Registration Committee has the right to set the rules to govern the election [quoted from Act to Reincorporate]. If this new way is a concern, take it up with the new Registration Committee. Legislative Reference Committee does not control this process and it is not an arbiter in these matters. Does "resident" in the Deed of Trust equal "resident" in the Act to Reincorporate? Report approved.

5. Arden Building and Loan Association

On May 20, The Arden Building and Loan Association's board of directors voted to put the 80-year-old organization up for sale. The decision to sell was made not because Arden Building and Loan is in poor financial condition—in fact, it has a healthy balance sheet—but because the current board has not found anyone to assume a leadership role. The board also felt the organization had outlived its need.

Many residents of the three Ardens feel that to lose the Arden Building and Loan is to lose part of our history and culture. Arden Building and Loan has offered residents of the Ardens mortgages to buy or improve their homes since the early days of Arden. Often it was the only available resource for these residents. It has provided a way for residents to invest in their community in the true Georgist spirit.

I, and others, believe Arden Building and Loan has a role in the future of our villages. Although it may need to adjust with the times, it can still play an integral role in our community. As a community foundation, it may offer a way to provide for ourselves without going to the outside for help. As a community bank, it may provide a credit union, a credit card, or 'community cash'.

If a viable plan for reorganization or leadership can be developed, the Arden Building and Loan Board of Directors has agreed to consider it as an alternative to selling. A workshop will be held on Thursday, July 17, in Lower Gild Hall to gather community input regarding reorganization and how Arden Building and Loan can continue to serve the community. We are also looking for residents with solid banking, real estate, or business experience who would like to offer their expertise in this effort. Help us find a way to enable this valuable community resource to continue its long tradition of serving the Ardens.

Resolution for Town Meeting

The Board of the Arden Building and Loan Association, which has served the Arden communities for the last 80 years, has announced its intention to offer its assets and charter for sale on the open market. It is the belief of the Town Meeting of Arden that the presence of this institution in the village is desirable. The Trustees of Arden, who are significant shareholders, are requested to seek and support [proposed amendment: change "support" to "options"] which will keep the Association as an active, locally owned and operated part of our communities.

Submitted by Beverly A. Barnett

Motion seconded.

Discussion: Amendment [in bracket] accepted. If shareholder support for continuing Arden B&L is not sufficient at the August meeting, the Arden B&L will be sold (the shareholders vote, not the attendees).

Motion approved. Send motion to Trustees.

6. Trustees' Report:

1) First, of course, we welcome Aaron Hamburger as our new trustee. From the article in *The Page*, one can note that obviously he enjoys the support of a large number people in the village. We will "enlighten" Aaron with some of the finer points of trustee work at our first meeting tomorrow.

2) The 1996-1997 audit is complete. Copies of the financial pages are on the table by the door [see *Statements for years ended March 24, 1997*, 4 pages]. I also forwarded 3 copies to the Village Audit Committee last week. The report indicates that we ended the fiscal year in solid financial shape with \$122,603.00 in the reserve. A small portion of this reserve is, in fact, encumbered funds due the specific grants secured by the Civic Committee and the Community Planning Committee. Also, please note that we earned about \$12,500 interest/dividends on our investments. I would expect there to be a minor revision in this report as I, and our books, disagree with the total of \$6000 shown on p.3 listed under the grants. The actual amount should be either \$5100 or \$10,500, depending on a \$5400 payment from the State of Delaware that Lou Bean is currently chasing.

3) Tonight we are presenting a new look to the Trustee Quarterly Financial Report [see *Village of Arden Receipts and Bank Balances . . .*, 2 pages]. Particularly notice the 2nd page where we have gained space—something severely needed due to our increasing internal and external activities. Also, Ruth, we have added a line for Memorial Garden disbursements. Yea. Comments on this new format will be entertained—as long as they are all positive remarks!

4) Buckingham Green: The lawsuit continues but with a possible end in sight. Our lawyer realizes that damage to the forest continues and has, accordingly, included consideration of this in the latest communication. If anyone has pictures of the Sherwood Forest or Perkins Run which may be useful in establishing a historical record, we would appreciate having copies of them.

5) We will prepare the Trustees' Administrative Budget for the 1998-1999 fiscal year at our meeting tomorrow and then submit it to the Budget Committee before the end of the month.

6) Finally, one of the fun aspects of moving an office is that one has the opportunity to review every piece of paper, and in doing so make some very cool discoveries. Among the most recent items uncovered are:

1. The original, and recorded, deed to the land from the Derricksons to George Frank Stephens.

2. The deed between the trustees and the village transferring the various common lands to the village, accompanied by the deed transferring the 4 unleased parcels adjacent to Sherwood Forest, #s 137B, 137C, 141A, and 142A to the Village.

3. The deed transferring the Buzz Ware Village Center from the Mount Pleasant School District to the Trustees of Arden.

4. The various agreements related to the original Arden Water Company and the transition of control to the Wilmington Suburban Water Corp.

5. A booklet titled Arden, undated, that contains among other things, the Constitution. Among these various documents, the only item that appears to need some legal attention is the deed relating to the Buzz Ware Village Center so that the proper entity

actually owns the facility. Our immediate intent is to preserve the legal documents properly, make several copies of each for various purposes, and secure them in a safe deposit box.

Respectfully submitted, Gail Rinehart, trustee

Report approved.

Village of Arden

Receipts and Bank Balances March 25, 1997 to May 31, 1997
Presented to Town Assembly on June 23, 1997

Balance in Bank March 25, 1997 \$201,479.83

Receipts:

Grants	0.00
Interest & Dividends	3,004.60
Land Rent:	
Past Fiscal Year(s)	2,458.25
Present Fiscal Year	96,529.96
Future Fiscal Year(s)	0.00
Meadow Lane Access Rent	513.96
Memorial Garden Donations	563.00
Miscellaneous	266.44
Rights of Way:	
Cable TV	0.00
Roads	0.00
SUBTOTAL Receipts	103,336.21
Redeemed Investments	+ 50,000.00
New Investments	- 280,000.00
TOTAL RECEIPTS	(126,663.79)

Receipts & Starting Bank Balance	74,816.04
Expenditures Against Budget	- 29,315.46
Balance in Bank as of	<u>45,500.58</u>

NOTE: Investment Position

Arden Building and Loan	15,000.00
Bank Instruments	320,000.00
Other	0.00
TOTAL Investment Position	335,000.00

Signatures:

Trustee:

Gail W. Rinehart

Admin. Assist:

Elizabeth Valley

Village of Arden

Expenditures Against Budget March 25, 1997 to May 31, 1997 and Presented to Town Assembly on June 23, 1997

Budget Item	Budgeted Amount	Expenditures F.Y. to Date	Expenditures Since Last Report
Committees:			
Archives	3,780.00	364.00	364.00
Buzz Ware Village Center	(a) 25,475.00	0.00	0.00
Civic: Commons & Forest	13,000.00	4,319.77	4319.77
Civic: Roads	14,000.00	2,387.00	2,387.00
Civic: Special Clean-Up	2,000.00	2,071.51	2,071.51
Civic: Trash Collection	33,000.00	5,307.74	5,307.74
Civic: Grants	6,000.00	0.00	0.00
Community Planning	(b) 4,500.00	4,269.80	(e) 4,269.80
Legislative Reference	300.00	0.00	0.00
Playground	1,300.00	12.40	12.40
Registration	3,100.00	580.81	580.81
Safety: General	900.00	21.40	21.40
Safety: Town Watch Coordinator	2,220.00	370.00	370.00
Welcome Hither	250.00	0.00	0.00
Salaries:			
Assembly Secretary	5,108.00	774.00	774.00
Assembly Treasurer	2,086.00	0.00	0.00
Other Line Items:			
Donations: ACRA	700.00	700.00	700.00
Donations: Arden Library	400.00	400.00	400.00
Donations: Arden Page	1,000.00	1,000.00	1,000.00
Donations: Fire Companies	850.00	850.00	850.00
Gild Hall Rental	650.00	650.00	650.00
Telephone	360.00	32.00	32.00
Contingencies	2,000.00	0.00	0.00
Items Not Subject to Referenda			
Memorial Garden Fund		281.58	281.58
Taxes: New Castle Co. Prop.	56,600.00	113.35	113.35
Taxes: School	146,500.00	289.54	289.54
Administrative: Auditing	3,000.00	0.00	0.00
Administrative: Insurance	6,000.00	0.00	0.00
Administrative: Legal	2,000.00	0.00	0.00
Administrative: Office Rent	2,100.00	350.00	350.00
Administrative: Miscellaneous	6,000.00	2,340.37	(d) 2,340.37
Administrative: Payroll Taxes	2,000.00	576.87	576.87
Administrative: Salary Ad. Asst.	8,736.00	1,456.00	1,456.00
Less Accrued Taxes		(202.68)	(202.68)

TOTAL	355,915.00	29,315.46	29,315.46
--------------	-------------------	------------------	------------------

Notes:

(a) BWVC funds are designated as follows:

General-\$475.00;

Ceiling-\$3,000.00;

Renovation Project Matching

Grant Funds-\$22,000.00

(b) Community Planning funds are designated as follows:

General-\$1,500.00;

Matching Funds-Urban Forestry

Grant-\$3,000.00

(c) Includes \$4,050.00 expenditure for Urban Forestry Grant.

(d) Includes Village authorized expenditure for Village Treasurer work done by Trustee Administrative Assistant

CORCORAN & COMPANY, P.A.

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

SUITE 108, RIDGELY BUILDING, CONCORD PLAZA
3513 SILVERSIDE ROAD, WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19810
TELEPHONE (302) 478-9515 FAX (302) 478-0262

WEST CHESTER, PENNSYLVANIA
TELEPHONE (610) 696-5439

MEMBERS
AMERICAN INSTITUTE OF CPAs
DELAWARE SOCIETY OF CPAs
PENNSYLVANIA INSTITUTE OF CPAs

INDEPENDENT AUDITOR'S REPORT

Trustees of Arden
Village of Arden, Inc.
Arden
Wilmington, Delaware 19810

We have audited the accompanying statements of assets, liabilities and fund balances of the Trustees of Arden and Village of Arden, Inc. as of March 24, 1997 and 1996 and the related statements of support, revenue and expenses and changes in fund balances and of functional expenses for the years then ended. These financial statements are the responsibility of the Trustees' and Village's management. Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audits.

We conducted our audits in accordance with generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement. An audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. An audit also includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall financial statement presentation. We believe that our audits provide a reasonable basis for our opinion.

In our opinion, the financial statements referred to above present fairly, in all material respects, the assets, liabilities and fund balances of the Trustees of Arden and Village of Arden, Inc. as of March 24, 1997 and 1996 and the support, revenue and expenses and changes in fund balances and of functional expenses for the years then ended in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles.

Corcoran & Company, P.A.

June 6, 1997

TRUSTEES OF ARDEN AND VILLAGE OF ARDEN, INC.
STATEMENTS OF SUPPORT, REVENUE AND EXPENSES AND
CHANGES IN FUND BALANCES
FOR THE YEARS ENDED MARCH 24, 1997 AND 1996

	1997			1996
	Trustees of Arden	Village of Arden, Inc.	Total All Funds	Total All Funds
	General Fund	Municipal Street Aid Fund	Village Center Fund	
PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE				
Public Support				
Received indirectly from				
Allotment - State of Delaware	\$ -	\$ 12,639	\$ -	\$ 12,658
Grant - State of Delaware	<u>6,000</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Total Public Support	\$ <u>6,000</u>	\$ <u>12,639</u>	\$ <u>18,639</u>	\$ <u>12,658</u>
Other Revenue				
Land rentals	\$318,863	\$ -	\$ -	\$301,227
Installment on sale of road's right of way	2,779	-	-	2,774
Installment on sale of cable right of way	1,230	-	-	1,190
Investment income	12,467	-	28	12,495
Rent and maintenance payments	-	-	18,180	10,073
Miscellaneous income	<u>4,526</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,464</u>	<u>17,225</u>
Total Other Revenue	\$ <u>339,865</u>	\$ <u>-</u>	\$ <u>21,672</u>	\$ <u>336,865</u>
TOTAL PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE	\$ <u>345,865</u>	\$ <u>12,639</u>	\$ <u>21,672</u>	\$ <u>349,523</u>
EXPENSES				
General	\$ 83,498	\$ 13,144	\$ 17,288	\$ 109,613
Property taxes	197,881	-	-	197,881
Administrative	<u>36,154</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>23,284</u>
Total Expenses	\$ <u>317,533</u>	\$ <u>13,144</u>	\$ <u>17,288</u>	\$ <u>328,969</u>
EXCESS (DEFICIT) OF PUBLIC SUPPORT AND REVENUE OVER EXPENSES	\$ 28,332	\$ (505)	\$ 4,384	\$ 20,554
FUND BALANCES - BEGINNING OF YEAR	<u>94,271</u>	<u>16,343</u>	<u>4,930</u>	<u>94,990</u>
FUND BALANCES - END OF YEAR (Page 2)	\$ <u>122,603</u>	\$ <u>15,838</u>	\$ <u>9,314</u>	\$ <u>115,544</u>

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of these financial statements.

TRUSTEES OF ARDEN AND VILLAGE OF ARDEN, INC.
STATEMENTS OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
FOR THE YEARS ENDED MARCH 24, 1997 AND 1996

	1997					1996
	Budget - General Expenses	General Expenses	Property Taxes	Administrative Expenses	Total	
Archives, General Fund committee expense	\$ 3,280	\$ 3,021	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,021	\$ 2,583
Buzz Ware Village Center	2,125	1,256	-	-	1,256	1,518
Civic:						
Commons and Forests	13,000	13,648	-	-	13,648	12,186
Grants	6,000	6,000	-	-	6,000	-
Roads	14,000	9,179	-	-	9,179	14,479
Special Clean-up	2,000	1,627	-	-	1,627	1,077
Trash collection	32,000	31,622	-	-	31,622	30,947
Community planning	200	90	-	-	90	462
Legislative reference	700	697	-	-	697	250
Playground committee expense	1,300	1,305	-	-	1,305	1,078
Registration committee expense	3,000	2,720	-	-	2,720	2,524
Safety committee expense	3,672	2,576	-	-	2,576	2,360
Welcome Hither	250	122	-	-	122	-
Salaries - town	6,444	6,444	-	-	6,444	6,251
Contingencies	2,000	-	-	-	-	-
Donations:						
ACRA	700	700	-	-	700	700
Arden Library	400	400	-	-	400	400
Arden Page	450	450	-	-	450	450
Fire Companies	850	850	-	-	850	850
Rent - Gild Hall	650	600	-	-	600	600
School, county and property taxes	202,800	-	197,881	-	197,881	196,072
Telephone	360	191	-	-	191	-
Auditing	3,000	-	-	2,900	2,900	2,800
Insurance	6,300	-	-	4,970	4,970	6,433
Legal	1,000	-	-	11,500	11,500	-
Office rent	2,196	-	-	2,196	2,196	2,100
Miscellaneous	1,500	-	-	4,411	4,411	2,075
Payroll taxes	1,600	-	-	1,441	1,441	1,380
Salaries - Secretary and assistant	8,736	-	-	8,736	8,736	8,396
TOTAL FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES (Page 3)	\$320,513	\$83,498	\$197,881	\$36,154	\$317,533	\$238,771

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of these financial statements.

TRUSTEES OF ARDEN AND VILLAGE OF ARDEN, INC.
STATEMENTS OF FUNCTIONAL EXPENSES
FOR THE YEARS ENDED MARCH 24, 1997 AND 1996

	1997				1996
	<u>General Expenses</u>	<u>Property Taxes</u>	<u>Administrative Expenses</u>	<u>Total</u>	
MUNICIPAL STREET AID FUND					
To general fund - road					
right of way	\$ 2,780	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,780	\$ 2,774
Road expense	9,344	-	-	9,344	3,830
Legal expense	-	-	-	-	100
Signal installation	<u>1,020</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>1,020</u>	<u>-</u>
Total (Page 3)	<u>\$ 13,144</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 13,144</u>	<u>\$ 6,704</u>
VILLAGE CENTER FUND					
Salary - custodian	\$ 4,800	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,800	\$ 4,387
Maintenance and supplies	8,131	-	-	8,131	14,526
Payroll taxes	444	-	-	444	414
Utilities	<u>3,913</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>3,913</u>	<u>4,867</u>
Total (Page 3)	<u>\$ 17,288</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 17,288</u>	<u>\$ 24,194</u>

The accompanying Notes to Financial Statements are an integral part of these financial statements.

**TRUSTEES OF ARDEN AND VILLAGE OF ARDEN, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 24, 1997**

NOTE A - SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Revenue and Recognition

The financial statements are presented on the accrual basis of accounting which includes the recording of expenses when incurred and revenue when earned.

All contributions are considered to be available for unrestricted use unless specifically restricted by the donor or board designated.

Fund Accounting

The Trustee's and Village's accounts are maintained in accordance with the principles of fund accounting, whereby revenues and expenses are classified into funds according to specified purposes or restrictions.

NOTE B - INVESTMENTS

Investments of the Trustees at March 24 consist of the following:

	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
Stock (150 shares - 1997; 400 shares - 1996) - Arden Building and Loan Association (at cost, which approximates market value); redeemable at any time (60-day notice may be required); current dividend - 6.5% payable in June	<u>\$ 15,000</u>	<u>\$ 40,000</u>

Investments of the Village Center at March 24 consist of the following:

	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
Stock - (4 shares - 1997; 4 shares - 1996) - Arden Building and Loan Association (at cost, which approximates market value); redeemable at any time (60-day notice may be required); current dividend - 6.5% payable in June	<u>\$ 400</u>	<u>\$ 400</u>

TRUSTEES OF ARDEN AND VILLAGE OF ARDEN, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 24, 1997

NOTE C - OTHER RECEIVABLES

Receivables of the Trustees at March 24 consist of the following:

	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
Land rental receivables:		
Current	\$ 9,289	\$ 2,400
Penalties receivable	<u>548</u>	<u>144</u>
Total	<u>\$ 9,837</u>	<u>\$ 2,544</u>

NOTE D - DEFERRED REVENUE

During the year ended March 24, 1997, the Trustees of Arden received a \$4,500 grant from the State of Delaware Department of Agriculture - Urban Forest Program. This grant is to be used to support the assessment phase for the public open spaces and gardens in Arden. These funds are to be expended during the year ended March 24, 1998.

Also, during the year ended March 24, 1997, the Trustees of Arden received notification from the State of Delaware Department of Transportation regarding a \$6,000 grant award for Tower Lane reconstruction to be completed during fiscal year ended March 24, 1998. Of this amount, \$600 was received during the year ended March 24, 1997. These funds are to be expended during the year ended March 25, 1998.

NOTE E - MUNICIPAL STREET AID FUND

Revenue for this fund is received from the State of Delaware. This grant is used for the general maintenance of the Village's roads.

Receipts for the years ended March 24 consist of the following:

	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
Municipal Street Aid Fund - state	\$ 12,639	\$ 12,658

NOTE F - CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK

The Trustees of Arden grant credit to landholders, primarily for the collection of land rent. The company places its cash and temporary cash investments with a high credit quality institution. At times such investments may be in excess of FDIC insurance limits.

TRUSTEES OF ARDEN AND VILLAGE OF ARDEN, INC.
NOTES TO FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
MARCH 24, 1997

NOTE C - OTHER RECEIVABLES

Receivables of the Trustees at March 24 consist of the following:

	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
Land rental receivables:		
Current	\$ 9,289	\$ 2,400
Penalties receivable	<u>548</u>	<u>144</u>
Total	<u>\$ 9,837</u>	<u>\$ 2,544</u>

NOTE D - DEFERRED REVENUE

During the year ended March 24, 1997, the Trustees of Arden received a \$4,500 grant from the State of Delaware Department of Agriculture - Urban Forest Program. This grant is to be used to support the assessment phase for the public open spaces and gardens in Arden. These funds are to be expended during the year ended March 24, 1998.

Also, during the year ended March 24, 1997, the Trustees of Arden received notification from the State of Delaware Department of Transportation regarding a \$6,000 grant award for Tower Lane reconstruction to be completed during fiscal year ended March 24, 1998. Of this amount, \$600 was received during the year ended March 24, 1997. These funds are to be expended during the year ended March 25, 1998.

NOTE E - MUNICIPAL STREET AID FUND

Revenue for this fund is received from the State of Delaware. This grant is used for the general maintenance of the Village's roads.

Receipts for the years ended March 24 consist of the following:

	<u>1997</u>	<u>1996</u>
Municipal Street Aid Fund - state	\$ 12,639	\$ 12,658

NOTE F - CONCENTRATION OF CREDIT RISK

The Trustees of Arden grant credit to landholders, primarily for the collection of land rent. The company places its cash and temporary cash investments with a high credit quality institution. At times such investments may be in excess of FDIC insurance limits.

7. **Archives Committee:** Arden has been offered a unique opportunity. After a year's worth of work on the part of the Archives Committee, the Delaware Art Museum has agreed to give us our first major museum exhibition in honor of our Centennial. The focus will be on Arden as an Arts and Crafts community during the years 1900-1935 and, while the date for the exhibition has yet to be finalized, it is tentatively scheduled for the spring of 2000.

This is an extremely important step for our community. Not only will we finally be able to write Arden's history through the artists and craftspeople who worked here, but it is our chance to assemble the best objects that Arden produced during those years. Thanks to the efforts of Peg Aumack we have made an important start, but we need everyone's help. This is not just any Archives project but a town project. It's an opportunity we may never have again. If you have questions about the exhibition or know of objects that may be of interest, please see me as soon as possible.

Respectfully submitted, Mark Taylor, chairperson

Report approved.

8. **Advisory Committee:** The Advisory Committee met on June 2, 1997, for the annual dinner to celebrate the election of new committee members and town officers, to thank ongoing members, as well as to pay tribute to Shaul Gladstone for his many years of service as Town Trustee. Congratulations are in order for all residents of Arden who contribute to the governance of Arden. There are many among us who volunteer days and weeks of their time each year to ensure the safety, beauty and "rightly-ordered business" of our Village.

The meeting that followed the annual dinner focused on the agenda for the Town Assembly of June 23, 1997. Highlights are outlined below:

- Results of the election for Town Trustee were announced.
- Town Treasurer Ken Lipstein and the Audit Committee will meet with the Trustees when the audit is completed.
- We have received responses from both Governor Carper and the Delaware Solid Waste Authority in response to the resolution opposing incineration as a method of waste management, passed at the last Town Assembly. Gov. Carper described efforts of the governing Board of the DSWA to require the DSWA staff to "...strenuously pursue additional recycling endeavors and monthly report to the Board..." He also indicated his support of the waste management hierarchy espoused by the US Environmental Protection Agency, which emphasizes that priority be placed on source reduction, recycling and reuse, and only secondarily on waste-to-energy, mass-burn incineration and landfilling; he has worked through the DNREC to encourage the DSWA in this regard. The communication from DSWA was significantly less supportive, referring to incineration as a "valid energy recovery option" and stating "We will continue to pursue an optimum combination of waste reduction, waste recycling, and waste-to-energy (either out-of State or in-State) options." They suggest indirectly, as well as incorrectly, that they support energy recovery from combustion only from "select, non-recyclable solid waste".
- There was brief discussion relating to the cost and labor required to maintain the new playground at the BWVC. Members of Playground and BWVC will meet to discuss the options.
- There was discussion about the continuing concern about funding sources for capital expenditures. The pro's and con's of including a line item in the budget called "Capital Appreciation" were explored.
- Community Planning discussed the long-range plans for the physical and cultural future of the Village, including the plans for the open spaces, traffic calming efforts on Harvey Road, and interactions between the proprietors of Papa Johns Pizza at the corner

Advisory Committee continued

of Grubb and Marsh and an Arden Task Force. Cultural issues included an update on trying to achieve Landmark Status and announcement of a \$12,000 grant to fund an "arts assessment" of the three Ardens.

- The BWVC is in the process of drafting a mission statement and reviewing the history of the BWVC.

- Each town committee is asked to submit a budget for the period of Mar. 26, 1998 to March 25, 1999 by the end of July. The final public meeting for this year's assessors' report was to be held June 3, 1997. We can anticipate a few philosophical changes to the assessors' approach to their work. Archives reported exciting news about an Arden exhibit at the Delaware Art Museum. Marianne Cinaglia recognized Bob Weiner's efforts to have a DelDOT moratorium on construction in the Naamans Road area.

Respectfully submitted, Judy Butler, chairperson

[Presented by Hays Butler in Judy Butler's absence]

Report approved.

9. **Assessors:** Chairperson Aaron Hamburger presented the Assessors Report for our review and questions noting that land rent will increase an average of 1% over the previous assessment. This year the majority of the board have based the assessment on a new definition (see top of second page of assessors report) using "market rental value" rather than "community standard of living."

Discussion: Certain items in budget are determined by household (trash, Arden Page donation, etc.) rather than square footage of lease. The assessors are interested in what the community of Arden as a whole desires. Congratulations to the board for the new definition: before the land rent was based on a fallacy, now based on the economic opportunity that a piece of land represents. What will Arden do if the land value decreases? Considerable amount of labor is given to the town by volunteerism.

Report accepted.

**BOARD OF ASSESSORS - VILLAGE OF ARDEN
REPORT TO TOWN ASSEMBLY. JUNE 23. 1997
FOR LAND RENT DUE MARCH 25. 1998**

SECTION I

The assessment for land rent due on March 25, 1998 reflects an assessment adjustment factor. This factor enables the land rent to yield ample revenue for:

1. The amount required to pay the county and school axes levied on the Trust by outside taxing authorities.
2. The amount required to maintain the community standard of living as indicated by recent referenda.
3. The amount needed to maintain a prudent reserve to insure the community freedom in considering the next referendum on community expenditures.

The rental value of Arden's leaseholds varies from lot to lot. The differences in the value of these assessments were derived by estimating the additional, or reduced rental value of each of the following advantages or disadvantages: required size; exceptions from the county zoning "single family detached dwelling" (apartments or commercial); wooded and/or open vistas; and proximity to excessive traffic.

Assessors Report continued

In reviewing the "prudent reserve" in the formula, the Assessors decided to calculate it as a proportion of total expenditures as was done in recent years. For the current calculation the reserve was computed at one-third of the year's expenditures. Expressed in another way, one-third of expenditures provides enough to cover four months of average expenses for the twelve month fiscal year. To achieve the prudent reserve target set for year-end 1998/1999, two adjustments must be made in the prudent reserve calculation. The village of Arden now issues annually a three-year financial forecast. Based on this document, the forecast reserve for year-end 1997/1998 and the change in expenditures from fiscal 1997/1998 to 1998/1999 are included in the prudent reserve calculation. Using this method of calculation, we can expect to be at or near the prudent reserve amount set for year-end 1998/1999.

The Assessors have determined that the land rent to be collected, which reflects an assessment adjustment factor, will be \$312,500. This assessment is approximately 33% of the Full Rental Value (the full value for which the land could be rented). The amount to be collected is about one percent higher than last year's amount.

The **General Location Rate**, called Rate A, reflects a value all leaseholds share.

The **Multiple Dwelling Rate**, called Rate B, reflects the added value of those leaseholds that have the privilege under zoning regulations or allowance by the trustees of establishing and maintaining more than one dwelling unit on the leasehold. In applying this rate, the definition of a dwelling unit is an independent living facility for one or more persons, containing permanent cooking facilities (not a hot plate) and other permanent facilities for living, sleeping, eating and sanitation. Existence of a kitchen is an essential ingredient of a dwelling unit.

The **Lot Size Adjustment Rate**, called Rate C, reflects the fact that large lots have less rental value per 1,000 square feet than smaller lots. This fact was derived from a 1971 study of lot values updated by a 1987 professional appraisal and a separate study of market values. This rate further reflects the fact that most Arden lots are restricted to being the site of a single dwelling. The portion of the lot that accommodates that dwelling is more valuable than any portion of the leasehold that exceeds the minimum area required for one dwelling.

The **Commercial Rate**, called the Rate D, reflects the added value of a leasehold permitted to accommodate commercial as opposed to residential use. This rate currently applies only to Lot #88.

The **Specific Location Factors** make adjustments to appropriate leasehold land rent in accordance with uniformly applicable rules.

SECTION II

The computation of revenue from the Arden Trust lands for 1997-1998 is as follows:

1. A: The forecasted amount needed for the county tax	\$ 53,000
B: The forecasted amount needed for the school tax	146,500
C: The forecasted amount needed for administration of the Trust	28,400
D. The forecasted amount needed for community standard of living	<u>95,600</u>
TOTAL ITEM 1 - FORECASTED EXPENDITURES	\$323,5000

Assessors Report continued

2. The amount needed to achieve at 1998/1999 year-end a prudent reserve target of \$108,000 (1/3 of the Total of Item 1) calculated as follows:

1998/1999 reserve target	\$108,000	
Less forecast reserve at 1997/1998 year-end	(113,000)	
Plus forecast change in expenditures (due to higher tax obligations and community standard of living)	4000	
	<u>\$ (1,000)</u>	<u>\$ (1,000)</u>
TOTAL REVENUE TO BE COLLECTED		\$322,500

THE 1998/1999 FISCAL YEAR RENTAL RATES
(YEAR BEGINNING MARCH 25, 1998)

General Location Rates

Rate A: \$128 per 1,000 square feet, applied to the first 6,500 square feet of each leasehold.

Rate B: 80% of Rate A. For each dwelling unit in addition to the first the 1 leasehold is charged rent for 6,500 square feet at this rate, but is not charged for more than the actual area of the leasehold.

Rate C: 40% of Rate A. This rate is applied to that area of a leasehold in excess of the area charged the A and B rates.

Base Land Rent: The sum of the charges (in dollars) from applying the General Location Rates A, B, and C to the area of a leasehold.

Rate D: A surcharge of 75% of the Base Land Rent for the leasehold with no deduction for frontage on Marsh Road.

Specific Location Rates (or Factors)

- | | |
|---|-------|
| 1. Leaseholds adjacent to Arden or Sherwood Forests: | + 10% |
| 2. Leaseholds fronting on Arden or Sherwood Forest
by being across the street: | + 5% |
| 3. Leaseholds adjacent to or fronting on a communal green: | + 5% |
| 4. Leaseholds adjacent to Harvey Road and/or
Marsh Road which have frontage on an Arden road: | - 5% |
| 5. Leaseholds adjacent to Harvey Road and/or Marsh Road
which have no frontage on an Arden road: | - 10% |

Notes

- The specific location factor charges (in dollars) to be added to or subtracted from the sum of the Base Land Rent are obtained by multiplying the Base Land Rent for the leasehold by the appropriate specific location factors as given above.
- A corrected forest or greens factor charge for a leasehold which has only a part of one side adjacent to or fronting on a forest or green shall be defined by multiplying the basic factor charge by the ratio of the actual fronting or adjacent footage to the total footage of that side of the leasehold.

*Assessors Report continued***Rent Collection**

The Trustees are requested to collect, by using the prescribed rates, the following approxi-mate amounts:

From the general location rates:	\$304,500
From the specific location rates:	<u>8,000</u>
Land Rent to be collected	\$312,5000
Revenue from fines and other sources:	<u>10,000</u>
TOTAL REVENUE	\$322,500

The method for determining full rental value and the rental rates presented in this report were approved by a majority of Assessors voting as follows:

For: Brachman, Curtis, Falco, Renzetti, Roberts, Varley

Against: Hamburger

The minority Assessor vote is based on disagreement with this year's definition and calculation of Full Rental Value. The minority Assessor supports the full rental value definition developed by Harold Monfort and Cy Liberman in a 1980 treatise. This so-called "community standard of living" approach to deriving full rental value was used by Boards of Assessors from 1980 until this year. Despite the negative vote (which is directly related to this year's concept of Full Rental Value), the minority Assessor agrees that the method used to determine the 1998 assessment and the amount to be collected is appropriate.

SAMPLES OF BASE RENTALS

Lot Size (sq. ft.)	
10,000	\$ 1,011.20
10,890 (1/4 acre)	1,056.77
20,000	1,523.20
30,000	2,035.20
40,000	2,547.20
43,500 (1 acre)	2,726.40

EXAMPLES OF RENT CALCULATION

1. A 20,000 sq. ft. lot containing one dwelling unit, fronting on Village Green, adjacent to Arden Forest:

6,500 sq. ft. X \$1 28/M sq. ft.	\$ 832.00
13,500 sq. ft. X \$1 28/M sq. ft. X 40%	<u>691.20</u>
Base Land Rent	1,523.20
Forest Factor- \$1 ,523.20 X 1 0%	152.32
Greens Factor- \$1,523.20 X 5%	<u>76.16</u>
Total Land Rent	\$1,751.68

Assessors Report continued

2. A 30,000 sq. ft. lot containing three dwelling unit and adjacent to Arden Forest:

6,500 sq. ft. X \$1 28/M sq. ft.	\$ 832.00
6,500 sq. ft. X 2 X \$1 28/M sq. ft. X 80%	1,331.20
10,500 sq. ft. X \$1 28/M sq. ft. X 40%	<u>537.60</u>
Base Land Rent	2,700.80
Forest Factor-\$2,700.80 X 1 0%	<u>270.08</u>
Total Land Rent	\$ 2,970.88

3. A 30,000 sq. ft. lot containing one dwelling unit with 75 feet of a 100 foot side fronting on Village Green:

6,500 sq. ft. X \$1 28/M sq. ft.	\$ 832.00
23,500 sq. ft. X \$1 28/M sq. ft. X 40%	<u>1 203.20</u>
Base Land Rent	2,035.20
Green Factor- \$2,035.20 X 75/100 X 5%	<u>76.32</u>
Total Land Rent	\$2,111.52

Signatures of Assessors

Bernard Brachnar
Bernard Brachnar

Peter Renzetti
Peter Renzetti

Michael K. Curtis
Michael Curtis

Ruth Roberts
Ruth Roberts

Carl Falco
Carl Falco, Secretary

Elizabeth Varley
Elizabeth Varley

Aaron S. Hamburger
Aaron S. Hamburger, Chair

8. **Auditing Committee:** Chairperson Ken Lipstein reported that the auditor's report has not been completed for their review. The Treasurer's Committee will report their findings as the next town meeting.

Report approved.

Vote to elect Arthur Stevenson to replace Betty DiCosmo, who had not been able to attend any meetings since the March election.

Arthur Stevenson was elected.

Report accepted.

9. **Budget Committee:** The Budget Committee is making its annual request to all standing committees that they submit a written budget for the Budget Year March 26, 1998 to March 25, 1999. These budget requests should be submitted by the end of July 1997, and the Budget Committee will use the month of August 1997 to consider and assemble all of the figures. The Committee should complete most of their work by late August so that it can submit a draft report to the Advisory Committee Meeting in September 1997.

Submitted by Larry C. Walker, Convener

Discussion: The BWVC has had a budget item approved for \$21,000 renovation expenditure in one year. We should be setting aside for long-term capital expenditures.

Report approved.

10. **Buzz Ware Village Center Committee:** The committee has worked to create a mission statement, and we offer the following:

As a Community Center, the mission of the Buzz Ware Center is to provide a meeting place to conduct town business, as well as to foster community spirit by offering recreational, educational, and cultural programs for the three Ardens.

As we worked through the points which we thought vital to our mission, we found ourselves doubting our success.

ACRA opened their summer program today, but has been forced by space considerations to send its preschool program to Gild Hall. Archives is verging on developing into an important collection, but lacks controlled space to store and display the collections.

We feel that these compromises we created by turning over so much of the center to tenants. We recognize that it costs money to run the building. We also recognize that the tenants fill an important void in town, since we know that upwards of a dozen children in the community are nurtured in the BWVC every day.

But tenant needs have limited our ability to give the town the full benefit of a village center. We will have to build an addition for Archives because we rented most of the building out?

Wouldn't it be fun to be able to go to the center on a Friday night to drink coffee, play chess, lounge with a neighbor?

The questions that we asked are questions we would like the town to answer, possibly by helping us in a survey. These are some of the questions we might pose:

1. Are you affected by traffic in the morning/evening due to BWVC tenants?
2. Are you interested in expanded programs? What type?
3. Would you participate in an open Friday night forum?
4. Are you aware that the toddler playground is available for Arden use? Do you use it?
5. Do you think ACRA has suffered due to loss of space?

6. If Ardentown and Ardencroft are willing to help support the BWVC financially, would Arden be in favor of allowing them to have a voting participation in the management of the center? (Ardentown currently donates \$500; Ardencroft \$300).

7. If the BWVC decided not to rent space to tenants, would you be willing to receive an increase in land rent to support the building? It will cost about \$75 a leasehold to replace the tenants income dollar for dollar. This is about 1/2 of the budgeted town garbage expense. If we create a reserve to truly keep the building up to snuff, that figure could possibly go to \$100.

We are asking the town to help us explore these possibilities and fully utilize the opportunities that we of the Ardens have been given.

Submitted by Tom Wheeler, chairperson

Discussion: Have there been any discussions to assess land in Ardentown and Ardencroft to help finance the building? A resident stated that the land rent could be higher than \$75/leashold. What about all three Ardens owning the building? All three Ardens should have been given the building, not just Arden.

Addendum: John Demsey is resigning from the committee. Alternate Ellen Dolmetsch is nominee.

Report accepted.

Vote was conducted. Ellen Dolmetsch was elected.

11. Civic Committee: A survey of the east boundary of Sherwood Forest is almost done. There are indications of lots of encroachment by residents of Ardencroft and Sunset Farms. This includes taking and converting areas of this forest to lawn, locating out buildings on the land, and piling trash on this land. With metal posts with plastic flags attached at 100 foot intervals in a straight line, there is no doubt where the true property line is. But, we too, Arden, are guilty of encroachment on Ardencroft land. About the first hundred feet of our path at the end of Meadow Lane, including the sign that begins "Woodland closed dusk to dawn . . ." is on Ardencroft land. We will relocate that portion of our path not on our land to our land. This area includes the before-mentioned sign. Our approach to encroachers is to be patient and understand, but eventually the encroachments have to be eliminated. We hope we can be persuasive and keep the lawyers out of this. Some of the involved people are already working on this.

Delmarva Power met all of their commitments to us and in good time. They installed a new pole, at no cost to us, which most people seem to think is not obtrusive. They simplified the wiring in this area. One line goes from the pole on Woodland Lane to the new pole and from there to the three using, the Meltons, to Mandy Tocco and to the theatre via an underground line. I must thank Charlie Till, the electrician (and also trustee of Ardentown) who did not charge us for his labor and also I must thank Walter Broadbent who made the sign which certainly improves the appearance of the structure on which it is located the necessary electrical equipment. Walter also did not charge us for his labor. I certainly thank both of you. We made certain other repairs to the Field Theater. We took down a small dead tree and removed a number of older dead branches. We replaced a number of broken boards from the fencing and installed a new section in the back of the stage. A few weeks ago, we resprayed the bench seats and back rests with wood preservative.

We did some repair work on our various catch basins and drains. This work is not generally visible but when it rains you will know it is important.

We have submitted a request through Wayne Smith for a DOT grant covering raising

some of the curbstones on the north section of the green. This should make it possible to do the work in 1998.

Submitted by Lou Bean, chairperson

Report approved.

12. Community Planning Committee:

A. Physical future of the Village-Long range plan for communal lands.

Phase 1 of the long range plan, a descriptive assessment for the Greens and Memorial Garden as presented to the public at an April 22 workshop at the BWVC. Maps are on hand tonight, and the full report is available in the Arden Library as well as from any member of ACPC and Civic Committee.

In addition to the general report, Landscape Architect Rodney Robinson drafted 16 interim steps which the Village could begin now. This is what the poll conducted among those present on April 22 reflected:

- * the most support for the work of Sherwood Green Parking Task Force and the idea of an Arden Green Pumphouse/School Bus Shelter.

- * the next level of support was for improving the setting around Fells Oak and maintenance of trees and shrubs in the Sweep/Stile communal land.

- * also supported were Arden Green maintenance of trees and shrubs, repair the-ater columns, and planting bulbs at theater.

These suggestions and preferences for action were passed on to the Civic Committee that evening, and Civic Committee promised action as budget and time allow. Anyone who feels a commitment to one or more of these projects should contact the Civic Committee to offer to work with them.

Since January, about half of the \$4500 match has been accrued and submitted. The Delaware Urban Forester encourages Arden to submit another application for next year. This committee is drafting a second grant to write a Forest Stewardship plan. Data has already been collect by an ardent group of volunteers.

B. Physical future of the Village-Impact from outside Arden.

1. Traffic Calming

On April 18, WILMAPCO provided a nationally-known speaker on traffic calming, Reid Ewing. He gave a very informative lecture to a diverse crowd at St. Davids Church. Some of his suggestions pertained to Harvey Road through the Ardens, namely:

- * Gateway effect - create a visual statement that indicates there is something different about the up-coming section of road.

- * Traffic tables/raised intersection - raise the roadway through the intersection, then pave the intersection and crosswalks in a different texture.

- * Traffic diversion circles-not vehicle round-about but small (+5 foot radius) areas in the middle of intersections that force traffic to slow down. Existing examples are at Sherwood & Hillside, and Orleans and Millers.

A grant of \$25,000 was received from DelDOTs Capitol Fund. A three community committee has been created with authority to oversee the administration of that grant. The most active sub-committees now are engineering and education. Engineering will gather proposals, refine into a specific bid, then ask for project proposals for design only. Committee members will attend an American Planning Assoc. workshop on traffic calming on July 8 in Delaware City.

Community Planning Report continued

2. Papa Johns Pizza.

Renovation construction has started, and they expect to be selling pizzas by August. Company representatives met twice with community representatives from the three Ardens, Buckingham Heights, and Sherwood Green. These citizens worked to minimize traffic impact and visual impact of exterior, lighting, and signs.

The company made some changes to the building's appearance, such as paint color and removal of a back-lit awning. The enforcement of the New Castle County Code changed their plans for roadside signs and lighting. We were unable to decrease the size of logo signs on the roof.

3. Forest Gate.

A single family home at the headwaters of Perkins Run is being converted to 24 condominiums. Representatives from Arden, the Naamans Creek Watershed Association, Buckingham Heights, and Sherwood Green protested to no avail that (1. the stream cannot accept more storm water run off, and that the Natural Area is being degraded now by too much run off, and (2. the sewer line though Buckingham Heights is beyond capacity.

4. Naamans Creek Watershed

We are working with Ardentown and Hanby Trust to develop a reforestation proposal for the sewer line to be submitted to the Delaware Estuary project. The focus is on soil restoration, particularly de-compaction of the rip-rap construction highway from Chestnut Street to Highland Woods.

Bob Wiener proposed a two-year study of Naamans Creek storm water run-off. The data derived should be useful in future plans for development and re-development which need proper on-site storm water retention. Without such data, current conditions will almost certainly worsen.

C. Cultural Future of the Village

1. Landmark Quest

Dr. David Ames paper is in library, along with provision to make comments about it. Please do read and comment. We will do an inventory of the physical features of the village. Aaron Hamburger prepared a history of the changing use of Gild Hall which may serve as a model for the rest of the village.

The Park Service proposed Arden as the site for a spring 1998 conference for 60-100 historians interested in the role of preservation vis a vis evolving cultural landscapes.

2. Arts and Artisans

We have been awarded a \$12,000 grant to do an assessment of the arts and artists and artisans who live and work in the three Ardens. Thanks are due to Mary Brent Whipple for her work. Mary Marconi will coordinate the administration of the grant and secure the necessary professional guidance.

Submitted by Beverly Barnett, chairperson

[Presented by Elizabeth Varley]

Memorial Garden: April 19 was a very successful clean up day. An energetic crew from very young to young in spirit worked hard and achieved many of our goals. A few weeks later volunteers work was done by the Colgan clan.

We received quite a number of contributions from people who were unable to work at the cleanup due to time conflicts, ill health, or long distance from Arden. These moneys were

Community Planning Report continued

used to purchase top soil, mulch and fertilizer. They will further be used to purchase some attractive and less invasive plantings on the swim pool fence so that an effective yet attractive screen can be achieved. This work is being done by Dan Benarcik who has been an excellent and knowledgeable resource.

Over 100 people braved rainy weather on the day of the Wilmington Garden tour, admiring the peaceful and beautiful site.

We were very pleased with the first Remembrance Day on May 18. The rain chased us into the Gild Hall which provided a lovely setting. We feel encourage to make this a yearly event.

Submitted by Ruth Bean, Memorial Garden representative

Reports approved.

- 13. Legislative Reference Committee:** The committee has elected me (John Stevenson) chair of the committee.

The Arden Handbook will be update to include all new committee chairs and any additions that are needed in the Policy and Procedures We have the names of all of the new chairs of committees with the final decision on one. WE ask all committees to review the policy section and submit any suggested changes in the next two weeks.

The handbook has been distributed to all known residents of Arden. If there are new renters please let the committee know.

Submitted by Hugh Roberts, chairperson

Discussion: Voting policy for replacing resigning or absent committee members should be included in handbook.

Report approved.

- 14. Ad Hoc Committee to Research Funding Resources**

This committee was established at the November Advisory committee meeting as a result of a discussion about large "Planning for large discretionary expenditures". Each committee member took a specific area to explore including: grants bond issues, endowments, corporate giving and expansion of the trust and government funding. We have developed some general information and methods of research that will be turned over to the Treasurer.

As we reported at the March Town Assembly research time will be better spent developing sources for specific projects rather than general topics. Each topic is a study in itself any almost always needs a primary need as a focal point to be of any value.

Submitted by Hugh Roberts, chairperson

- 15. Playground Committee:** Playgrounds inspected in April, May and June.

a. Hardwood chips were spread on the Sherwood Green at the May Saturday meeting.

b. Chips were spread on the upper Arden Mall Green Saturday, June 21st.

c. The Lower Arden Green will receive new chips in July.

d. All playground equipment will be painted by late fall.

2. The Committee requests that Town Council decide if the Buzz Ware School flagpole should be refurbished at a cost of \$300 to \$400, or be removed.

a. On the August 17th 1996 inspection, the Committee decided the pole was rusting and should be fixed or removed. The Council was informed of our opinion at the September 23rd 1996 meeting.

1. Electro Art Sign Company would prime and double coat. The pole with enamel paint plus install a rope for \$400.
2. A request was made to the Council for possible uses for the pole. None have been received.
3. Phil Fischer has agreed to cut down the pole and cut it into several pieces for convenient removal. He requests that he be allowed to keep the eagle ornament for his payment.
4. Could we have a decision on this tonight?

For the Committee, Rich Bloom, chairperson

Report approved.

Motion: Since there has been no positive response for keeping the flagpole, we ask permission of the Town Assembly to have Phil Fisher remove the flagpole.

Seconded.

Motion approved.

16. Safety Committee:

• Community Watch:

We have been discussing the results of the recent survey and what, if any, changes we should make to the program. The good news is we have picked up fourteen new participants. The bad news only 10% of the Ardens households even bothered to return the survey. Any proposed changes would not be presented at this town meeting.

• Reflective numerals:

There was a notice in the last Page that the committee will finally finish the project by completing the mailboxes on Harvey Road and the Gild Hall side of Arden. As you may remember, we took on this project to make our residences more noticeable in an emergency to fire and police. Anybody who does not want this done, please contact a member of the committee ASAP.

• Traffic signs:

Replacement signs for existing damaged and/or faded ones have been on order and should be in this week. We will start this project soon. We have already begun cutting back shrubbery that is obscuring signs and/or fields of vision at intersections. The committee would rather spend its time with the sign replacement project, so we encourage residents to do necessary pruning around safety signs.

The committee proposes the following:

The Arden town assembly instructs the Safety Committee to erect two signs at the point to actuate the traffic signal on Harvey Road, one on The Highway at the intersection with Harvey Road, the other on Orleans Road at the intersection with Harvey Road, each sign reading "Stop here to change traffic light". Both signs shall be the size of a standard "no parking" sign, 10 inches x 18 inches. Both signs shall be affixed to a wooden 4x4 posts.

• Millers & Sherwood Rds:

The committee has discussed the excessive speed on these two roads. We are concerned that the problem will increase if, and when, traffic calming is instituted on Harvey Road and drivers attempt to "cut-through" the village. Existing speed humps are ineffective as they have been paved over. However, they are only part of the solution anyway. We will bring this concern up at the next Harvey Road traffic calming meeting.

Safety Report continued

Respectfully submitted by Tim Colgan, chairman

Motion: The Arden town assembly instructs the Safety Committee to erect two signs at the point to actuate the traffic signal on Harvey Road, one on The Highway at the intersection with Harvey Road, the other on Orleans Road at the intersection with Harvey Road, each sign reading " Stop here to change traffic light". Both signs shall be the size of a standard " no parking " sign, 10 inches x 18 inches. Both signs shall be affixed to a wooden 4x4 posts.

Motion seconded.

Discussion: We do not need any more signs. Put wording on the road to indicate stopping area. Response: Painting on road will require more upkeep. State laws must be adhered to. Safety had actually added only one sign for quite a while.

Vote taken.

Motion not approved.

Motion: The town assembly requests that the Safety Committee consider marking the road at intersection of Harvey and Orleans to clarify the location of the tripper for the stop light.

Motion seconded. Vote taken.

Motion approved.

Discussion on Town Watch: Need to schedule and have actual watches 2 times per week. Ideas are welcome.

- 17. Welcome Hither Committee:** Committee member Maryellen Jobson reported for chairperson Jannie Stears that 137 packets have been distributed to date.

18. Centennial Committee:

The Centennial Committee is meeting on a regular basis to develop plans for our fast approaching Centennial - only 921 days to go. We have discussed a number of ideas that provide a way for us to celebrate this event as well as increase awareness to the surrounding area about Arden. Some of the ideas being considered are:

Opening the January town meeting to the public.

An exhibit at Delaware Art Museum focusing on Arden from 1900-1935 as an Arts and Crafts community. This is already in the works thanks to the Mark Taylor and Archives. Delaware Historical Society has expressed interest in a subsequent exhibit focusing on Arden from 1935-60. Possibly followed by an exhibit in Arden focusing on 1960 to the present.

What birthday would be complete without a big birthday bash. Held during the summer, we envision closing of the Highway and Orleans, hanging lanterns, having a giant birthday cake and a live band. Maybe open Gild Hall and the pool for the day. Sort of a big Arden street party. This would be open only to residents. Restart the tradition of Arden Day complete with a May Pole dance. Create a book of photos depicting Arden's history.

Dedicate a permanent monument of some sort.

Series of summer concerts on the Green.

A special production by the Shakespeare Gild of As You Like It, hopefully in the newly restored Moonlight Theatre.

These are just a few of the ideas discussed. Our goal is to focus on three or four main

Centennial Report continued

events and build the year's celebration around them. Hopefully, the different committees and guilds, sponsors or hold different activities. We'd like to coordinate everything through this committee so that we can create a centennial calendar of events and avoid any conflicts or overlaps.

The committee has asked Deborah Haskell from the Delaware Heritage Commission to come talk to us at our next meeting. Deborah has a great deal of experience planning year-long events such as this. We hope she can give us some valuable insight on how we should move forward and coordinate everything.

We know there are a lot of great ideas out there from the residents, and we'd like to hear them. After all, this isn't the committee's celebration, it's Arden's. The committee invites and welcomes any suggestions or thoughts that anyone might have about how to celebrate the centennial. Please jot down your ideas - it doesn't have to be anything formal, a handwritten note or e-mail is fine - and give them to me by September 1. There will also be a request for ideas in the next Page so that everyone has an opportunity to respond if they want.

Respectfully submitted,

Lynda Kolski, Centennial Committee

20. Old business: None

21. New business: The Weaving Shop has been the source of many complaints. Resident knew of at least 10 police calls to that location. We must enforce noise ordinances stricter. Building inspectors should be called. Constant pressure is the solution. **Trustee response:** Neighbor to neighbor problems are difficult. The leaseholder has been called.

22. Good and welfare: Responding to a request, the Town Assembly chairperson, asked permission to have the broken eagle on the flagpole replaced.

A resident asked that thank you notes be sent to volunteers Walter Broadbent and Charles Till and also a card be sent to Rae Gerstine saying that she was missed at the last meeting.

Marianne Cinaglia updated us on the Watershed Association.

Meeting adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,



Connee Wright McKinney, Town Assembly Secretary

Next meeting: September 22, 1997 at 7:30 pm at the Guild Hall

STATE OF DELAWARE
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNORTHOMAS R. CARPER
GOVERNOR

May 7, 1997

Ms. Connie W. McKinney
Town Assembly Secretary
Village of Arden
Arden, Delaware 19810

Dear Ms. McKinney:

Thank you for sharing your resolution expressing concerns about incineration as a means of trash disposal. I appreciate your concerns and your interest in the protection of public health and the environment of the State of Delaware.

I support the "waste management hierarchy" espoused by the U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) and have encouraged the Authority, through the state Department of Natural Resources and Environmental Control (DNREC), to adhere to it. As you may know, this hierarchy promotes the full optimization of each higher level waste management option, such as source reduction, recycling and reuse, before moving to the next lower option, waste-to-energy, mass-burn incineration and landfilling. In this regard, you may be interested to know the Board issued a separate resolution which directed "that the [Delaware Solid Waste Authority] staff strenuously pursue additional recycling endeavors and monthly report to the Board..."

The Authority has not, to date, commissioned any feasibility studies or engineering plans to develop a WTE facility (incinerator). In fact, the Board directed authority staff to compile a summary of environmental regulations governing the development and operation of waste-to-energy facilities, research the latest developments in technology, identify related public health issues, and develop a conceptual waste-to-energy system that will address the operational, environmental, health and economic issues. Clearly, construction and operation of a WTE facility is not imminent.

Again, let me thank you for taking the time to express your concerns.

Sincerely,

Thomas R. Carper
GovernorTATNALL BUILDING
DOVER, DELAWARE 19901
(302) 739 - 4101
FAX (302) 739 - 2775CARVEL STATE OFFICE BLDG.
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE 19801
(302) 577 - 3210
FAX (302) 577 - 3118

**DELAWARE SOLID WASTE AUTHORITY**

N.C. Vasuki, P.E., DEE
Chief Executive Officer

Pasquale S. Canzano, P.E., DEE
Chief Operating Officer

Board of Directors

Richard V. Pryor
Chairman
Ronald G. McCabe
Vice Chairman
J. Donald Isaac
Theodore W. Ryan
Phyllis M. McKinley
William G. Turner, Jr.
John P. Hooley

May 16, 1997

Town Assembly
The Village of Arden
The Highway
Wilmington, DE 19810

Dear Friends:

On behalf of the Chairman and Board of Directors, we thank you for expressing your views on the Statewide Solid Waste Management Plan.

The Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. 6901 et seq) Subtitle D, recognizes the need for an Integrated Solid Waste Management System for managing the nation's solid waste discards. (See Section 1004(20)(22)(23) and (24).)

The Delaware General Assembly, by enactment of the Delaware Solid Waste Authority's enabling legislation (7 Del.C. Ch. 64), directed the Delaware Solid Waste Authority (DSWA) to consider a comprehensive program which includes energy recovery from non-recyclable solid waste. (See Subchapter II, Section 6450.)

The management of the solid waste discards of our affluent society is a complex and often discordant issue. Finding sites for facilities, resolving operational issues and identifying costs and markets for recyclable materials require the use of a mix of systems to ensure reliability of service. Ever changing social and economic pressures also place a premium on programs that are flexible, rational and pragmatic in order to avoid crises. Absent reasonable alternatives, deleting a valid energy recovery option from a well thought out, publicly aired and accepted plan does not seem appropriate at this time.

While we understand that some are unalterably opposed to the use of energy recovery from solid wastes, we must always keep in mind the need for conserving landfill capacity to meet the State's future needs. Energy recovery from combustion of select, non-recyclable solid waste helps to reduce the volume of solid wastes requiring landfilling.

1128 S. BRADFORD STREET • P.O. BOX 455 • DOVER, DELAWARE 19903-0455
PHONE (302) 739-5381 • FAX (302) 739-4287
CITIZENS' RESPONSE LINE (800) 404-7080

Printed On Recycled Paper

[Page two of letter from the Delaware Solid Waste Authority]

Town Assembly
The Village of Arden
May 16, 1997
Page Two

In Delaware, the land use issue continues to be a priority topic. The DSWA has championed the conservation of lands for landfilling by pursuing a mix of tried-and-true novel options, such as recycling, waste to energy, and landfill mining to recover disposal volume. Because of DSWA's careful planning and implementation, Delawareans continue to enjoy trouble-free disposal of their daily solid waste discards in modern landfills. We are always searching for new ways to reduce the pressure of consumption of precious land in the State. We will continue to pursue an optimum combination of waste reduction, waste recycling, and waste-to-energy (either out-of State or in-State) options as the most reliable way to achieve that goal.

Sincerely yours,



N. C. Vasuki, P.E., DEE
Chief Executive Officer

Attachments

cc: Governor Thomas R. Carper
Board of Directors